
Date: February 06, 2012 **MEPD Policy Bulletin Number: 12-06**

To: Eligibility Services – Regional Director for MEPD
Regional Attorneys
Hearings Officers

From: Dee Church
Director
Family Services Policy
State Office 2090

Subject: 1. **Medicaid Managed Care Changes**
2. **MEPD Instructions for CBA Redeterminations in the Hidalgo, Lubbock, and El Paso Service Areas**
3. **Medicaid Dental Services**

The information in this bulletin is for **MEPD**. If you have any questions regarding the policy, follow regional procedures. The information in this bulletin is available at the following websites:

- Family Services - <http://ofs.hhsc.state.tx.us/mepd/mepd-bulletins.aspx>
- MEPD Handbook - http://www.dads.state.tx.us/handbooks/mepd_policy/index.htm

1. Medicaid Managed Care Changes

Background

The 2012-2013 state budget (2012-2013 General Appropriations Act, House Bill 1, 82nd Legislature, Regular Session, 2011) includes savings from expanding capitated Medicaid managed care statewide. To achieve these savings, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) is expanding the State of Texas Access Reform (STAR) and STAR+PLUS Medicaid managed care programs effective March 1, 2012.

Currently, the STAR and STAR+PLUS Medicaid managed care programs operate primarily in urban areas of the state, while the Primary Care Case Management (PCCM) program operates primarily in rural areas of the state.

Policy/Procedure Update

Effective March 1, 2012, the STAR and STAR+PLUS Medicaid managed care programs will expand to new areas of the state, which will transition approximately 800,000 people from the PCCM program to the STAR and STAR+PLUS managed care programs. The following changes will be implemented March 1, 2012. The tables below show the counties included in each service area.

- STAR+PLUS will expand to the El Paso and Lubbock service areas
- STAR and STAR+PLUS will expand to the new Hidalgo service area
- STAR will expand to the rural service areas (164 counties that are currently PCCM)

STAR and STAR+PLUS enrollment packets were mailed November 29, 2011 through January 13, 2012. Members must choose a health plan and doctor by February 10, 2012 or they will be automatically assigned to a health plan.

Staff can access the following HHSC Managed Care Initiatives webpage for additional information and to view samples of the letters and enrollment packets.

<http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/MMC.shtml>

This information is being shared with staff prior to implementation because enrollment packets have been distributed and staff may receive questions.

Clients can call 1-800-964-2777 for enrollment questions or assistance. Clients can also attend an outreach event for information on STAR or STAR+PLUS and for enrollment assistance. For a calendar of events clients can access the following website: <http://www.txmedicaidevents.com>

Hidalgo Service Area STAR & STAR+PLUS					
County Code	County Name	County Code	County Name	County Code	County Name
31	Cameron	159	Maverick	240	Webb
66	Duval	162	McMullen	245	Willacy
108	Hidalgo	214	Starr	253	Zapata
124	Jim Hogg				

MRSA - West Texas (STAR)					
County Code	County Name	County Code	County Name	County Code	County Name
002	Andrews	083	Gaines	180	Oldham
005	Archer	087	Glasscock	182	Palo Pinto
006	Armstrong	090	Gray	185	Parmer
009	Bailey	096	Hall	186	Pecos
012	Baylor	098	Hansford	189	Presidio
017	Borden	099	Hardeman	192	Reagan
022	Brewster	103	Hartley	193	Real
023	Briscoe	104	Haskell	195	Reeves
025	Brown	106	Hemphill	197	Roberts
030	Callahan	114	Howard	200	Runnels
035	Castro	118	Irion	207	Schleicher
038	Childress	119	Jack	208	Scurry
039	Clay	122	Jeff Davis	209	Shackelford
040	Cochran	127	Jones	211	Sherman

041	Coke	132	Kent	215	Stephens
042	Coleman	133	Kerr	216	Sterling
044	Collingsworth	134	Kimble	217	Stonewall
048	Concho	135	King	218	Sutton
051	Cottle	136	Kinney	221	Taylor
052	Crane	138	Knox	222	Terrell
053	Crockett	142	La Salle	224	Throckmorton
055	Culberson	148	Lipscomb	226	Tom Green
056	Dallam	151	Loving	231	Upton
058	Dawson	156	Martin	232	Uvalde
063	Dickens	157	Mason	233	Val Verde
064	Dimmit	160	McCulloch	238	Ward
065	Donley	164	Menard	242	Wheeler
067	Eastland	165	Midland	243	Wichita
068	Ector	168	Mitchell	244	Wilbarger
069	Edwards	171	Moore	248	Winkler
076	Fisher	173	Motley	251	Yoakum
078	Foard	177	Nolan	252	Young
082	Frio	179	Ochiltree	254	Zavala

MRSA - Northeast Texas (STAR)					
County Code	County Name	County Code	County Name	County Code	County Name
001	Anderson	102	Harrison	194	Red River
003	Angelina	107	Henderson	201	Rusk
019	Bowie	112	Hopkins	202	Sabine
032	Camp	113	Houston	203	San Augustine
034	Cass	139	Lamar	210	Shelby
037	Cherokee	155	Marion	212	Smith
049	Cooke	169	Montague	225	Titus
060	Delta	172	Morris	228	Trinity
074	Fannin	174	Nacogdoches	230	Upshur
080	Franklin	183	Panola	234	Van Zandt
091	Grayson	190	Rains	250	Wood
092	Gregg				

MRSA - Central Texas (STAR)					
County Code	County Name	County Code	County Name	County Code	County Name
014	Bell	081	Freestone	147	Limestone
016	Blanco	086	Gillespie	150	Llano
018	Bosque	089	Gonzales	154	Madison
021	Brazos	093	Grimes	161	McLennan
026	Burleson	097	Hamilton	166	Milam

045	Colorado	109	Hill	167	Mills
047	Comanche	120	Jackson	198	Robertson
050	Coryell	141	Lampasas	206	San Saba
062	DeWitt	143	Lavaca	213	Somervell
072	Erath	145	Leon	239	Washington
073	Falls				

Lubbock – STAR+PLUS					
County Code	County Name	County Code	County Name	County Code	County Name
033	Carson	095	Hale	153	Lynn
054	Crosby	110	Hockley	188	Potter
057	Deaf Smith	117	Hutchinson	191	Randall
077	Floyd	140	Lamb	219	Swisher
085	Garza	152	Lubbock	223	Terry

El Paso – STAR+Plus					
County Code	County Name	County Code	County Name	County Code	County Name
071	El Paso	115	Hudspeth		

2. MEPD Instructions for CBA Redeterminations in the Hidalgo, Lubbock, and El Paso Service Areas

Do not deny clients if the redetermination packets are not returned by the original due date. Use the following schedule for completing transactions on these clients:

- For redeterminations due January-February 2012 cut-off, delay action until after April 2012 cut-off.
- For redeterminations due February- March 2012 cut-off, delay action until after May 2012 cut-off.
- For redeterminations due March-April 2012 cut-off, delay action until after June 2012 cut-off.

If redetermination packets are returned by the original due date, process as usual, including taking the appropriate denial action if clients no longer meet the eligibility criteria.

To avoid delinquencies and Mass Update denials for clients whose packets are not received by the original review date, a Processing Service Request (PSR) is being done to extend the review due dates according to the above schedule. Reviews must be completed by the extended due date to be considered timely, including denial for failure to furnish review packet.

Supervisors need to run the DataMart report – DG01 to monitor the cases that were sent redetermination packets for redeterminations due from January through April cut-off to ensure that clients whose packets were not received are not denied. If a case is denied, staff will need

to ensure cases are promptly reopened in order to continue benefits and complete the transition to STAR+PLUS.

3. Medicaid Dental Services

Currently, HHSC provides Medicaid dental services through a fee-for-service model. Effective March 1, 2012, most children and young adults under age 20 who are enrolled in Medicaid will receive dental services through a dental managed care plan. This may include some children with disabilities who are eligible for Medicaid. However, there is **no action needed by MEPD eligibility staff**.

The following Medicaid recipients will not be eligible to enroll in a dental managed care plan and will continue to receive dental services through existing service delivery models:

- Medicaid recipients age 21 and over;
- All Medicaid recipients, regardless of age, residing in Medicaid-paid facilities such as nursing homes, state supported living centers, or Intermediate Care Facilities for Mentally Retarded Persons (ICFs/MR); and
- STAR Health Program recipients.

Eligible Medicaid clients will receive an enrollment packet that will provide information on the dental managed care organizations (DMOs) and dental provider choices that are available in their area, as well as how to choose a dental plan.

Staff can access the following website to read more about the changes and view samples of enrollment packets:

<http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/Children-Medicaid-Dental-Services.shtml>

This information is being shared with staff prior to implementation because enrollment packets have been distributed and staff may receive questions.

Clients can call 1-800-964-2777 for enrollment questions or enrollment assistance. Clients can also attend an outreach event to obtain information on children's Medicaid dental services and for enrollment assistance. For a calendar of events, clients can access the following website: <http://www.txmedicaidevents.com>

Training

There is no additional training requirement.

Handbook

The managed care expansion information will be updated in the June 2012 MEPD Handbook revision.

Effective Date

Instructions for processing CBA redeterminations are effective January 2012 cut-off. The managed care expansion is effective March 1, 2012.